

the purposes of this part, a State agency which has been authorized by the Corporation to perform State Commission duties is called a “Transitional Entity”).

(c) The Corporation recognizes that establishing and operating State Commissions involves significant effort and cost. Therefore, grants of between \$125,000 and \$750,000 will be distributed to the States to cover the Federal share of operating the State Commissions, AAEs, or Transitional Entities. (For the purposes of this part, notwithstanding the definition of “State” that appears in the National and Community Service Act of 1990, as amended (the Act), “State” means the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.) In order to receive any Corporation grant, however, a State must commit to establishing a State Commission or AAE as soon as possible.

(d) The purpose of this part is to provide States with the basic information essential to participate in the subtitle C programs. Of equal importance, this part gives an explanation of the preliminary steps States must take in order to receive money from the Corporation. This part also offers guidance on which of the three State entities States should seek to establish, and it explains the composition requirements, duties, responsibilities, restrictions, and other relevant information regarding State Commissions, AAEs, and approved Transitional Entities.

§ 2550.20 Definitions.

(a) *AAE*. Alternative Administrative Entity.

(b) *Administrative costs*. As used in this part, those costs incurred by a State in the establishing and operating a State entity; the specific administrative costs for which a Corporation administrative grant may be used as defined in the Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements to State and Local Governments.

(c) *Alternative Administrative Entity (AAE)*. A State entity approved by the Corporation to perform the duties of a State Commission, including developing a three-year comprehensive national service plan, preparing applications to the Corporation for funding

and approved national service positions, and administering service program grants; in general, an AAE must meet the same composition and other requirements as a State Commission, but may receive waivers from the Corporation to accommodate State laws that prohibit inquiring as to the political affiliation of members, to have more than 25 voting members (the maximum for a State Commission), and/or to select members in a manner other than selection by the chief executive officer of the State.

(d) *Approved National Service Position*. A national service program position for which the Corporation has approved the provision of a national service educational award as one of the benefits to be provided for successful completion of a term of service.

(e) *Corporation*. As used in this part, the Corporation for National and Community Service established pursuant to the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 12651).

(f) *Corporation representative*. Each of the individuals employed by the Corporation for National and Community Service to assist the States in carrying out national and community service activities; the Corporation representative must be included as a member of the State Commission or AAE.

(g) *Indian tribe*. (1) An Indian tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community, including—

(i) Any Native village, as defined in section 3(c) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1602(c)), whether organized traditionally or pursuant to the Act of June 18, 1934 (commonly known as the “Indian Reorganization Act”; 48 Stat. 984, chapter 576; 25 U.S.C. 461 et seq.); and

(ii) Any Regional Corporation or Village Corporation as defined in the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1602 (g) or (j)), that is recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States under Federal law to Indians because of their status as Indians; and

(2) Any tribal organization controlled, sanctioned, or chartered by an entity described in paragraph (g)(1) of this section.

(h) *Older adult*. An individual 55 years of age or older.

(i) *Service-learning*. A method under which students or participants learn and develop through active participation in thoughtfully organized service that is conducted in and meets the needs of a community and that is coordinated with an elementary school, secondary school, institution of higher education, or community service program, and with the community; service-learning is integrated into and enhances the academic curriculum of the students, or the educational components of the community service program in which the participants are enrolled, and it provides time for the students or participants to reflect on the service experience.

(j) *Service learning programs*. The totality of the service learning programs receiving assistance from the Corporation under subtitle B of the Act, either directly or through a grant-making entity; this includes school-based, community-based, and higher education-based service-learning programs.

(k) *State*. As used in this part, the term *State* refers to each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

(l) *State Commission*. A bipartisan or nonpartisan State entity, approved by the Corporation, consisting of 15-25 members (appointed by the chief executive officer of the State), that is responsible for developing a comprehensive national service plan, assembling applications for funding and approved national service positions, and administering national and community service programs in the State.

(m) *State Educational Agency*. The same meaning given to such term in section 1471(23) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 2891(23)).

(n) *State entity*. A State Commission, AAE, or Transitional Entity that has been authorized by the Corporation to perform the duties of a State Commission.

(o) *Transitional Entity*. An existing State agency which has been authorized by the Corporation to perform the duties of a State Commission; the Corporation will not authorize the use of a Transitional Entity unless a State is demonstrably unable to establish a State Commission or AAE.

§ 2550.30 How does a State decide which of the three entities to establish?

(a) Although each State's chief executive officer has the authority to select an administrative option, the Corporation strongly encourages States to establish State Commissions which meet the requirements in this part as quickly as possible. The requirements for State Commissions were established to try to create informed and effective entities.

(b) The Corporation recognizes that some States, for legal or other legitimate reasons, may not be able to meet all of the requirements of the State Commissions. The AAE is essentially the same as a State Commission; however, it may be exempt from some of the State Commission requirements. A State that cannot meet one of the waivable requirements of the State Commission (as explained in § 2550.60), and which can demonstrate this to the Corporation, should seek to establish an AAE.

(c) Over the long term, States that wish to participate in the Corporation's grant programs must have either a State Commission or an AAE approved by the Corporation. Some States, due to legal or other procedural requirements, may be unable to establish one of these two entities in time to participate in fiscal years 1994 or 1995. Therefore, during the 27-month period beginning on September 21, 1993 and ending on December 21, 1995, a State may apply to the Corporation for authorization to use a Transitional Entity.

(d) A State should consider applying to have a Transitional Entity approved only if it can demonstrate that it is impossible, for legal or procedural reasons, to establish a State Commission or AAE in time to participate in the national service programs.

(e) Regardless of which entity a State employs, each State is required to solicit broad-based, local input in an open, inclusive, non-political planning process.